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THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

CIRCULATION 3,500 - 4,999

2003 OCNA AWARDS

2004 OCNA AWARDS

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Vol. 121 No. 40

\$1 including GST

Committee to find way to re-open Frost Centre

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Operation PermaFrost is "cautiously optimistic" that a new committee set up by Gerry Phillips, the Chair of the Management Board, will come up with a plan to see the Frost Centre open its doors once again.

"We're optimistic because the government seems to be genuinely trying to work out a solution that will speak to the real concerns of the people of this province," says Dave Heaven, a spokesperson for Operation PermaFrost which has been lobbying the province to re-open the Ministry of Natural Resources' education facility

south of Dorset.

"But," he adds, "we're cautious because we don't yet know the terms of reference they're going to use, what will be involved in the work plan, the 'agendas', if any, of the committee members, what those members understand about the real importance and value of the Centre and even if we will be

able to contribute or have any input into the process.

"We can only assume we'll have input since the government has said firmly that it wants to be more open and responsive to the people and to the communities."

At least one of the six committee members welcomes the involvement of PermaFrost in

the process of bringing together new partners to manage the Frost Centre.

Greg Walling, a Lindsay businessman with Liberal ties, says that PermaFrost is one of the groups that will be consulted.

"Maybe you can take the Frost Centre and make it better," he

See Davis page 17

BIA's to-do list includes cenotaph and new building facades

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Haliburton's small cenotaph park has been added to the Business Improvement Association's to-do list.

The BIA has an ambitious redevelopment plan that includes new faces for all of the main street buildings, more flowers and benches, an art project, signage, trees, theme lighting, and removing the hydro and telephone poles from downtown. The plan was presented to the community at a public meeting last Monday night attended by approximately 35 people.

Andy Glecoff, BIA president and local merchant, says that in the early 1990s government money was plentiful to help small towns such as Minden, Bobcaygeon and Fenelon Falls get rid of wires, put in interlocking brick and make aesthetic improvements. Haliburton's failure to jump on board puts the village at a competitive disadvantage, Glecoff says.

Glecoff cited the improvements the BIA has done to date including 35 new street signs, 10 benches, 36 hanging flower baskets plus 16 wood planters, 30 recycling garbage containers, a pedestrian crossing, and development of the Haliburton

See Main Streets page 16



Biking for Terry

Eva and Bruce Griffith rejoiced in Sunday's glorious weather as they took part in the annual Terry Fox Run. Bicycling along the Head Lake boardwalk they joined 94 other people in raising \$4,840 to fund cancer research. More photos on pages 10 and 11.

Landscaping will win over the gallery skeptics: Fearrey

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Wait and see.

That's what Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey urges people to do as they try to envision what the newly renovated Rails End Gallery will look like.

The municipality has been

criticized for adding several feet to the height of the gallery, which used to serve as the village's train station, by adding an above ground basement. The basement will house an office and storage space.

Many people think the gallery will look out of place perched on an artificial hill, but Fearrey said the landscaping will make

the world of difference.

"I think it will be beautiful," he says.

He added that the building will be only four feet higher than when it was first built because it had sunk two feet in the intervening years and the municipality had built up the road by another two feet.

As proof of what proper land-

scaping can achieve, he asks people to look at the Bobcaygeon municipal office, which is on a man-made hill, and the Kinmount train station, which is on the slope of a hill.

As soon as a sketch of the landscaping is ready, Fearrey says he'll share it with *The Echo* to help allay concerns about the building's height.

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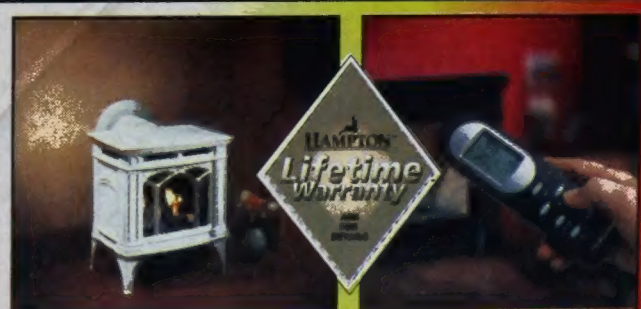
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Franka's cookin' it up with Colin Firth

FRANKA ANDRIANO made Colin Firth speechless. *The Echo's* kitchen diva was attending one of the public question and answer forums at the Toronto Film Festival when she asked the British actor if he'd ever considered making a five-minute video on how to kiss. Franka, it appears, thinks the kissing scene between Firth and Renee Zellweger in *Bridget Jones's Diary* to be one of the classics in cinema. When Firth stumbled over his words to come up with an appropriate response Franka had to bite her tongue to stop herself from volunteering to be his counterpart in the kissing video. Firth was still pondering his answer when he was asked the next question.

Nada Vaughan is such an inspiration. The former Haliburton resident who once wrote the *Echo's* cooking column has had to put all of her energies into fighting the cancer that was discovered last January. More tumours have developed since then and last week she began another round of chemotherapy. However, her spirits remain high, thanks, she says, to her faith in God. (The 400 cards she's received have helped, too.) She and her husband Rick have moved to the small community of Delta where he is a minister, and she's frustrated with her inability to get involved in the community – for now. She's optimistic that her strength and energy will return after her treatments. She's also looking forward to being able to eat solid food again. Her friends in Haliburton know how much she loves to cook and share her food with others as a gift of love and thanksgiving. She says, "I have learned that if you have your health you have everything you need. I have

here, there & everywhere

news and events worth noting

also learned what is important in life and how much time we spend on what is *not* important." If you'd like to extend your best wishes, her address is Box 22, Delta, Ont., K0E 1G0, nrvaughan@interhop.net

Keep a close eye on upcoming Lexmark printer commercials. Kate Campbell, an actress who grew up on Soyers Lake, will appear as an executive in upcoming spots appearing American stations. At the end of this month, she'll be flying to the Calgary Film Festival for the showing of *Echo*, a film about two women trapped on an elevator. The 90-minute film was done in one take, with no cuts. Whew!

Olympic rower Silken Laumann will be speaking at the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough on September 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. to help raise money for the city's Flood Relief Fund. She will focus on the role of a positive attitude and why children should be encouraged to get involved with sports.

The regional Alzheimer Society is hosting a workshop for families and professionals called "Talking About the Use of Memory Enhancing Drugs, Down Syndrome and Dementia" in Campbellford on October 12. For more information call toll-free 1-800-561-2588.

Local painters are invited to submit up to four of their recent works to the Bobcaygeon Arts Council's Juried Art Show, which runs the month of October. Paintings must have been done since last October 1 and can be no bigger than 24" X 32"; they must also be available for sale. There are three categories – young at art, amateur (for painters who have been at it for less than two years) and open – and four classes – oil/acrylic; watercolour; pen and ink or pencil; and under glass. All art should be framed. The cost to enter is \$5 per painting. For details call Wendy Hall at 705-738-2086.

Tory Hill woman injured by her own car

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

A 76-year-old Tory Hill woman is in stable condition at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto after she was struck down by her own car.

On September 12, Norma Walsh parked her car in her driveway. After she got out of the car it started rolling down the incline and knocked her over. Either she had not left it in park or it popped the gear.

"She just couldn't get out of the way in time," says her sister-in-law Roberta Walsh.

Neighbours noticed her lying on the ground and waving for help. They called for emergency services. Roberta Walsh says that when Highlands East firefighters arrived as part of the first response initiative, Norma Walsh was conscious and able to speak to the firefighters.

After being transferred to St. Michael's, Mrs. Walsh was kept under sedation to help with her recovery. She had struck her head in the accident but her son Glen says the main concern is her heart. "We're concerned about the trauma of [the accident]," he said from his home in Oshawa.

Mrs. Walsh's four sons have taken turns staying with her at the hospital but have yet to be able to talk to her. "She seems to be doing better all the time and we'll know by the end of the week when she can be transferred out of ICU."

The family is very pleased with the treatment she's been receiving. "The doctors sent her to the right place," Glen says.

Diamond ring found in Minden

Officers from the Haliburton Highlands OPP are in possession of a diamond ring that was turned in by a member of the public.

The ring was found on Main Street in Minden on September 15.

The owner of this ring can contact the Haliburton Highlands Detachment at 286-1431. Anyone intending to claim this property will be required to identify the ring.

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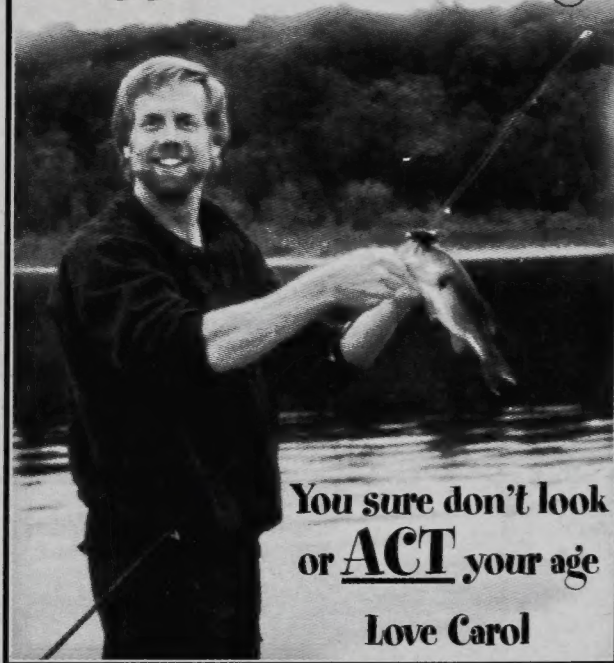
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• All animals must be at least 4 months old

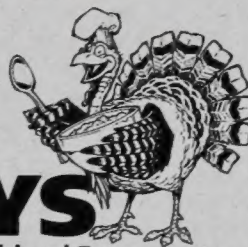
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Dancers give Haliburton a twirl

Haliburton was home to more than 200 square dancers who came from all over Ontario on Saturday, Sept. 18. The Haliburton Highland Twirlers hosted the 6th annual Dance Jamboree at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. With more than 25 dancing clubs represented (from places such as Kitchener, London, Conestoga and Elmira) there were 220 people at the event held in the athletic facility and the school's cafeteria. The evening dinner served 102 people. It was held at the Haliburton Legion and was organized by Twirler Laurene Scott.

Highlands East wants ambulance of its own

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Highlands East will be asking Haliburton County to consider creating an ambulance base in the eastern end of the county.

Council unanimously passed the resolution at the September 14 meeting. Reeve Keith Tallman says the emergency first response system is costing them a lot of money because there is not an ambulance based in Highlands East.

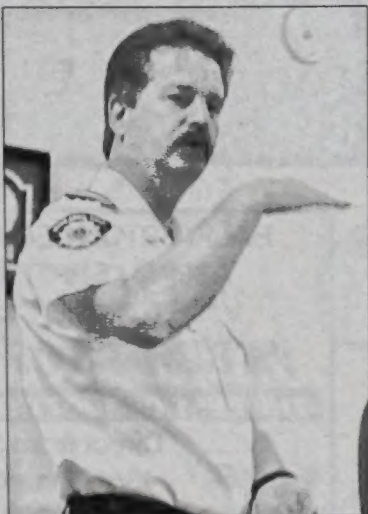
Fire Chief Don Middleton says 60 per cent of the fire department's calls for service are medical emergency calls. He says the normal average in the province is 20 to 30 per cent. Middleton says they are paying for the same service twice by paying for the ambulance through the levy the municipality pays to the county and for the fire department to respond to calls.

He suggested they might try a system like the new one in Tweed, where an ambulance sits in Tweed during peak usage times. He thinks it would be a more effective system than the one now where, according to his data, the average ambulance response time to a call in Highlands East is 30 to 45 minutes.

Bob English, the county's emergency services director, says the province requires ambulances to respond to calls

within 26 minutes 96 per cent of the time. This means it will occasionally take longer. This is permissible as long as 96 per cent of the time they do hit the target. English says they are consistently meeting the standards.

He was not invited to the meeting and data was not requested from either English's department or the county before Highlands East council's discussion.

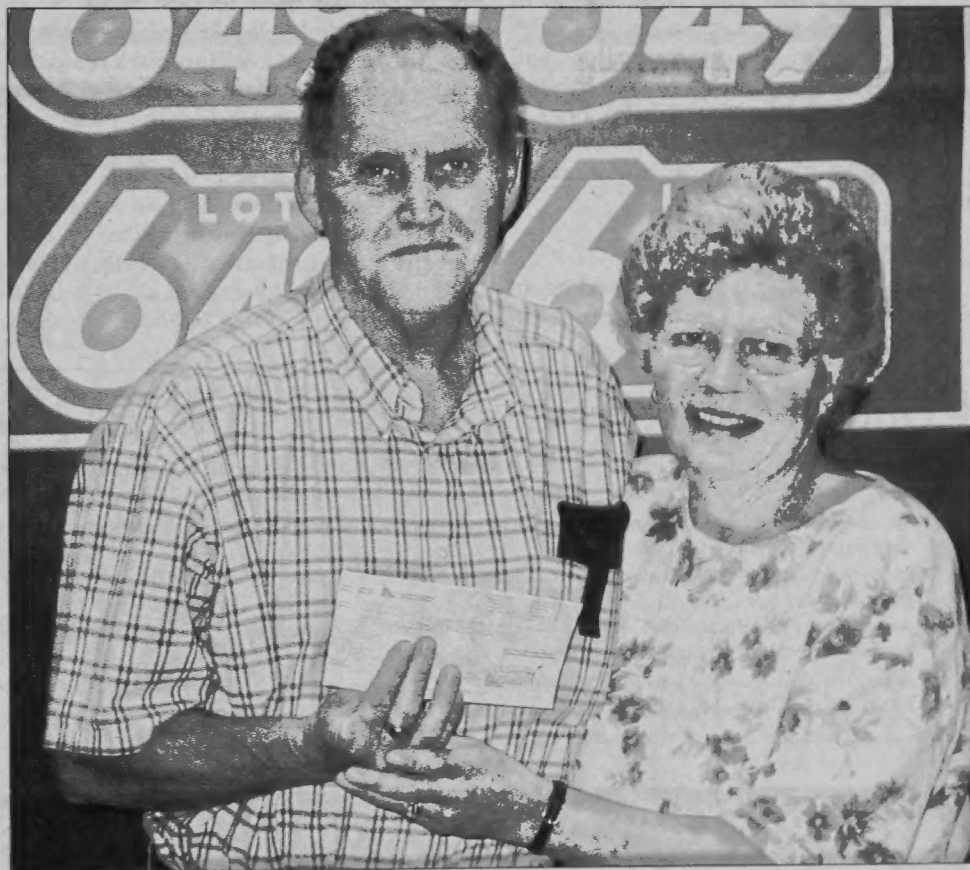


Fire Chief Don Middleton says 60 per cent of his department's calls are for medical emergencies.

Haliburton County now has two ambulance bases, one in Minden and one in Haliburton. There are usually two ambulances in Haliburton, one in Minden, and there are two spares for busy periods or if an ambulance has to come off the road for any reason. The approximate cost for an ambulance and the equipment on board is about \$140,000.

The entire operating budget of the land ambulance service, which is administered by the county is \$2.6 million, says county CAO Jim Wilson. He had not by press deadline received the request yet from Highlands East and the issue of their request has not been debated yet by county council.

English says the present resources and staffing deployment are meeting provincial standards but if the county wants to fund an additional ambulance, they can accommodate it.



Allan and Lyndell Cox will use their windfall to pay off debt and invest the rest. They bought the ticket at Haliburton's Jug City.

Haliburton couple wins \$144,000 in Lotto/649

September 15 ended up being a lucky day for Allan Cox of Haliburton when he got flagged down on the road with good news.

His wife Lyndell Cox told the Lotto 6/49 staff at the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's Toronto Prize Office that she was so excited about discovering they had just won \$144,102 that she immediately started hunting down her husband.

"I was at home when I checked the ticket, my husband was out. I called my

son right away and told him to go find his father. He flagged him down on the road and said to him 'Call Mom!' He was pretty shocked with the news I had to tell him!" she told staff.

Allan is 57 years old and semi-retired. Lyndell works at Varty's Jewellers in Haliburton. The couple have three sons and four grandchildren. They plan to use the winnings to pay off debts and make an investment.

The winning Lotto ticket was purchased at Jug City in Haliburton.

Dysart council briefs

Head Lake bandshell gets a reprieve

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from the Dysart et al council meeting on September 13.

The Head Lake Park bandshell may not have to sail into the sunset after all.

Earlier this year council passed a resolution to tear down the bandshell because of the constant vandalism. On Monday, Reeve Murray Fearrey suggested that council reconsider the resolution given a new idea to save the structure.

He says there is an individual who is willing to renovate the wooden structure at his own cost so it will look more like a sail as it was intended to be. The idea is to remove eight feet of boards from the cement base upwards and clad the rest of the structure in white metal.

Council agreed to grant the bandshell a reprieve until the new idea could be further explored. Deputy-Reeve Bill Davis said he did not support the idea because they had already agreed to remove it.

Cellular phones

During the course of the meeting, Deputy-reeve Bill Davis, who also serves as Warden of Haliburton County, left several times to answer calls on his cell phones. He apologized to council but said he was talking to the provincial government and felt the calls were important to take.

Jones suggested that cell phones should be barred from the council chambers. Fearrey says once the council is meeting in its own chambers, instead of their temporary meeting space in the Royal Canadian Legion, councillors will be able to receive messages taken by staff and will therefore not need cell phones.

The resolution to ban cell phones was passed although Davis was not in favour of it.

Museum

The museum has been approved again for a provincial community museum

operating grant of \$15,244.

Council also approved the appointment of Dr. Terry Hicks to the museum board of management. The Hicks family were homesteaders in the Lochlin area and have already donated a number of artifacts over the years to the museum. Hicks has an extensive record of public service including time as the Haliburton Rotary Club president, and has served on various health committees such as the Community Health Federation, the Ontario Society of Public Health Dentists, and Ministry of Health committees.

Hicks now describes himself as semi-retired and is providing consulting services to the Muskoka-Parry Sound Health Unit.

Snowshoe Trail

Fearrey says he took a request from a group of individuals interested in creating a snowshoe trail through Glebe Park and neighbouring municipal property to the Glebe Park Management Committee.

Fearrey says the group is welcome to put the trail in the park on municipally-owned land but the municipality will not take on any responsibility for the management or insurance of the trail. Fearrey says the park is already covered for people walking in it but the municipality will not take on any additional liabilities specific to a snowshoe trail.

A motion to this effect was passed in council.

Soft balls

Clerk Tammy McKelvey reported back to council per their request about what kind of baseballs would be better suited for public parks. A Harcourt resident had earlier complained that hard baseballs were being used in the park and batters could hit them farther, which usually meant directly into his house. Fearrey said that they also had a problem with baseballs hitting the library and neighbouring houses in Haliburton. Councillor Leon Jones said the baseballs are battering the West Guilford commu-

nity Centre as well.

Glen Sharpley of Sharpley Source for Sports told McKelvey that there are different types of cores of baseballs with various degrees of hardness with 35 being the softest and 50 the hardest. The harder the ball, the farther and faster it flies.

Council passed a resolution requiring all the municipal diamonds to use the softer balls. Councillor Steve Pogue, who sits on the Harcourt recreation committee, says the teams there are already using the softer balls and it has failed to solve their problems.

Summer Ice

Hockey Haven has requested a five-year commitment from the municipality to guarantee the availability of summer ice for a summer hockey school. A letter from Hockey Haven president Pat Russell says the camp is unable to properly advertise when there is no certainty each year that the ice will be available.

The council was not willing at this time to make the commitment.

Frost Centre

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty sent a letter to council acknowledging the council's protest of the closure of the Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre. The letter, dated July 30, informed council that Liberal MPP Jeff Leal from Peterborough is arranging a meeting with stakeholders and the honourable Gerry Phillips, Chair of the Management Board of Cabinet regarding the Ontario Realty Corporation's real estate process for the sale of the Frost Centre property and buildings.

Council also received a request from Cathy Olliffe on August 8 to consider hanging Save the Frost Centre banners in the village during the Labour Day weekend or this fall. Reeve Murray Fearrey said "We're past the banner waving exercise."

Council did not vote on the issue of banners and received the letter as information.

IGA manager says public washrooms are needed in Haliburton

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

With three to four hundred people using the washrooms at Haliburton IGA it's impossible to ensure they are clean at all times of the day, says manager Bob Park.

However, his staff clean the washrooms at least once a day – more often in the summer.

"I run a very clean, very healthy store," he says, feeling that last week's letter to the editor about the state of public washrooms in the village "was totally unfair." Accidents can happen and if there is a problem in the washroom, he encourages people to let the staff know.

Staff member Trish Phippen says staff take turns cleaning the washrooms "a couple of times a day, more if it's busy. We're always in there making sure it's clean. If someone brings a problem to our attention, we'll be there immediately."

Park says the real problem is the lack of public washrooms in the village; the only other public washrooms are in the Stedman's Mall.

Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey says the municipality is putting new public washrooms in the renovated Rails End Gallery.

"We've tried several times [to offer public washrooms] but unless they're manned it's impossible," Fearrey says. "It would be nice to have them but cost-wise it's prohibitive."

The municipality used to have public washrooms by Rotary Park but they were repeatedly vandalized and treated deplorably. "It was just a horror story," Fearrey says.

The problem isn't just in Haliburton, he says. "Public washrooms aren't anywhere any more because of the maintenance issue."

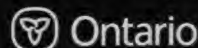
Ontario's new free vaccines will protect kids

The government of Ontario is helping kids stay safe from chicken pox and meningococcal meningitis, and helping families by adding these free vaccinations to the routine immunization schedule. Here's how it works:

- Vaccines for chicken pox and meningococcal meningitis are now available for one-year-old children in Ontario born on or after September 1, 2003.
- Starting in January 2005, 5-year-olds who haven't had chicken pox can also get the vaccine, as well as high-risk people of any age.
- Also starting in January 2005, 12-year-olds, 15- to 19-year-olds and high-risk people of any age will be eligible for free meningococcal meningitis vaccinations.

For more information, talk to your doctor or local public health unit. Call 1-877-234-4343. TTY 1-800-387-5559. Or visit HealthyOntario.com.

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DARREN LUM/ECHO

Alzheimer research gets a break

Heather Roberts, Art Dawson and Alzheimer Society of Peterborough and Area (ASPA) support services co-ordinator Janet Bottum share a laugh over coffee and juice during Haliburton's first Alzheimer Coffee Break contest last week at the corner of Highland St. and Maple Ave. in Haliburton. Companies and individuals are encouraged to host coffee breaks where people gather to raise funds and the awareness of Alzheimer Disease. Registration forms can be obtained from the local branch. The Alzheimer Society will provide a how-to-guide, pieces to publicize the break, and information about the disease. The deadline to register to raise funds is Oct. 8 and the draw for the Pfizer Crate o' Coffee that will include coffee products will be made Oct. 12. The Alzheimer Society helps to improve the quality of life for those suffering from Alzheimer Disease and their caregivers. Telephone 1-800-561-2588 for more details.

Two accidents cause only minor injuries

Even though the GMC Envoy lay deeply embedded in the ditch along Highway 118, the four people who emerged had been spared major injuries.

The accident occurred Saturday night at 8:30 on Hwy. 118 west of Grass Lake. The OPP says the driver of the Envoy, 43-year-old Brian Watts of Whitby, lost control of the SUV and it veered into the path of a '91 Dodge Spirit heading towards West Guilford. The car was badly damaged on the driver's side and driver Ian Purdie, 31, of Haliburton and his passenger suffered minor injuries.

Watts and his three passengers also sustained minor injuries.

Paramedics, Stanhope firefighters and the OPP responded.

Two drivers sustained minor injuries after an accident in Minden on Monday morning.

A 1991 Honda Civic was stopped in the southbound lane of Hwy 35 waiting to make a left turn onto Ravine Road. A 1994 Chrysler Intrepid that was also southbound struck the rear of the Honda.

The Minden Hills Fire Department used the Jaws of Life to free the driver of the Civic. Sheila Woodcroft, 36, of Minden was taken by ambulance to the Minden Hospital and treated and released.

The Intrepid's driver, 20-year-old Michael Manser, had minor injuries.

Both accidents are still under investigation.

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Reasons to hope

Cautious optimism is a good response to the formation of a new Frost Centre committee. Comprised of two representatives from Haliburton County, two from Muskoka and two well-connected "outsiders", the committee's job is to come up with a viable management plan to re-open the Frost.

Most Highlanders don't know much about the two Muskokans, councillor Margaret Casey and retired Gravenhurst clerk Ken Veitch, but both appear to have a history of "getting things done." They also have a deep commitment to the Frost which, while not being in Muskoka, is an important part of that region's economy, too.

Brian Desbiens, who in Newfie talk is "from away," is a prize catch. As the recently retired president of Fleming

College and head of the Ontario Council of Regents, he is a multi-tasker extraordinaire. More than that, he balances his passion for education with an eternally good mood. He is a nice

echo

editorial

martha perkins

and effective solution-seeker, just the perfect combination needed to overcome the anger that resulted from the province's decision to arbitrarily close the educational facility early this summer. With Fleming's natural resources programs Dr. Desbiens is already very aware of what groups might be called on to help manage the Frost Centre. We're lucky to have him on our side.

Lindsay businessman Greg Walling has been following the Frost Centre travails through the pages of *The Echo* since day one. Although he's well-connected to the Liberal party he recognizes that the Frost Centre closure was handled improperly. His forte is helping groups find innovative ways to make or access money. A volunteer with many non-profit organizations in Lindsay, his financial expertise has been strongly valued as he's helped to make those organizations stronger by making them more economically viable.

Here in Haliburton County, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Eleanor Harrison comes by her occasional feistiness naturally. She has proven to be a strong defender of the things she believes in, and she passionately believes in the Frost Centre. At county council she has sometimes been a lone (female) voice during debates but she is not afraid to make her opinion known. While some politicians questioned involving Muskoka in the fight to save the Frost she saw the benefits of having as many voices as possible speaking out on the issue. She sees Muskoka as an ally, not a threat.

Warden Bill Davis reportedly worked the crowd on the Frost Centre's behalf at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference earlier this month and as reported in this week's Dysart briefs he's always on his cell-phone with provincial officials, too. Davis has been the county's spokesperson as it demanded meetings with cabinet ministers – two of whom have cottages in Dysart et al – to try to come up with alternatives to the closure. He can be tenacious.

We now have a two-pronged effort to save the Frost. This committee will come up with alternative ways to manage the Frost, most likely by forging partnerships with non-profit organizations. Members have basically given up on the hope that the province will re-open the centre. That hope is being kept alive by Operation PermaFrost which is untiring in its commitment to make the government change its mind. It wants the government to honour its duty – to the citizens of Ontario and the province's natural resources – by reinstating funding. Both approaches are welcome, both can be effective. If they worked together the government won't know what hit it.



Seeing the sights

Photo by DARREN LUM/ECHO

The price we pay

The Olympics are over. Many Canadians are disappointed in our medal count. Our population is aging and we are beginning to see new chances for ever longer survival. What can these two news items have in common, other than that they deal with human interactions? Separately and collectively, they show us how easily we get caught up in the aspirations of the moment. Sometimes because of particular pressures we sacrifice the general welfare. Sometimes the opposite is true.

Kevin Sylvester, sports announcer for CBC Radio during the Olympics, set out starkly the confusions and competing values facing our country and our future aspiring Olympians during the next four years. He decided to talk with an Australian woman gymnast to find out what was so different in their system that enabled them to be on the podium frequently while we so often were not. After all, we are countries of comparable size.

"How did you get this far?" he asked. She replied that the Olympic organization went out to the schools and looked for promising talent. She was twelve when she left family and friends, and went far away to a sports academy when she was trained for the next eight years, receiving her education at the same time. She gave her teenage years so that she might help her country gain more golds at the Olympics. Her sacrifice to herself will only become apparent as she ages and is no longer an admired athlete. Her medal, if she got one, will merely be part of a number count flashed on the screen at future Olympics.

Sylvester was not convinced that this should be the Canadian way. He may be wrong. For many decades, young boys, showing exceptional promise as possible hockey prodigies, have left family and friends for training and school during their early teenage years. Oh yes! Wayne Gretzky's career is the dream, but how many

derailed prodigies are there who just could not make the grade and have therefore missed out on the most formative years of their lives. The general desire to remain a great hockey nation as well as our longing to be well up the scale on the medal count at the Olympics may sometimes lead to decisions that satisfy our collective desires without recognizing the individual cost.

At the other end of life's journey the opposite occurs. Within the grasp of the science of medicine lies the possibility of extending life. Perhaps adding decades. Most of us would probably like to stay around if we could remain healthy and

productive citizens. In this case particular desires may drive the search for El Dorado and the fountain of life beyond the ability of the general society to sustain such longevity. If the average span of life becomes 100 years, how will our pension system sustain itself? Perhaps we will raise the age of retirement? How then can the work force expand to embrace so many extra workers? Will our medical system be able to function with the increasingly aging population?

Such simple questions form only the tip of the iceberg on this subject. In this case, however, the individual pressures, the individual longing for a few more years may lead to decisions that do not attempt to balance the general cost.

During the past decades we have lived in a world that has worshipped progress in whatever ways we wished to define that word. Balance was not a popular concept. Often we live with results we could never foresee. A professor once told me, when I tried to validate, in a major essay, a general goal with only particular examples, that I was demonstrating one of the two ways we think erroneously in our society today. Said he, "Neither the particular nor the general alone makes for good policy."

He also lowered my grade..



marion hare

perspectives

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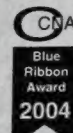
THE
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HALIBURTON COUNTY

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1987, '88, '89,
'90, '91, '92,
'93, '94, '95,
'96, '97, '98 '99
'00, '01, '03

Luck of the draw

There are times in this life when I'm absolutely in awe of God's sense of poetic justice. Take, for instance, an incident that occurred two weeks ago when I attended the 1st Ontario Pheasants Forever dinner. I was there as part of an Ontario Out of Doors magazine delegation that consisted of Editor/Associate Publisher Burt Myers, Contributing Artist Tom Goldsmith, and me, a contributing editor.

The reason we journeyed down to this particular winery in St. Catharines had to do with a feature I wrote on the wild pheasant re-introductions. Tom, who did an oil painting for the story, was providing the dinner organizers with a print to auction off.

You have to know Goldsmith like I do to truly appreciate the comedic genius of the next bit.

the not so great



steve
galea

outdoorsman

You see, the dinner started at 7 p.m. and, though we left in good time, Burlington rush hour traffic ensured that we arrived with less than a minute to spare. So we rushed to the door, flashed our tickets, and were quickly seated just as the first door prize was being drawn.

Myers and I never bothered to put our tickets away; we just laid them on the table, his being 0036 and mine 0038. Goldsmith, on the other hand, had buried his deep in one of his pockets, so when the

first number was called, he didn't hear it thanks to his fumbling efforts to find said ticket.

Just as he began pulling the stub from his pocket, he looked over and asked, "What was that number?" In that moment of weakness, he forgot I was his best friend.

Naturally, I replied, "0037." The best friend code demanded no less.

"0037!" he exclaimed, "that's my ticket!"

"You won," I assured him. "That's you!"

You must understand that Goldsmith isn't one to seek attention - far from it. He'd rather sit back in the shadows watching other people make fools of themselves. And, by the way, most times I'm the other people. And that's why it was so satisfying to see my normally cool and reserved best friend jump up in front of about 200 people and yell, "I won! I won!" as he held the ticket high above his gangly 6-foot-2 frame. I have never seen him look less dignified. It was beautiful.

And since our table was only two from the front, he drew the undivided attention of the entire crowd, including most notably, a confused emcee as well as the fellow behind him who actually held winning ticket, numbered 0017 I believe.

The emcee looked at Tom suspiciously and asked, "What's your number, sir?"

"0037," Tom said hopefully.

"Sit down, sir," the emcee ordered rather brusquely. Others looked at Tom as if he had been partaking of the winery's stock. I might have made the drinking gesture.

I must admit I kept a straight face right up until Tom looked over at me. When our eyes met I saw him come to the startling realization that he had been duped. Quick as a flash, he clued in, shook his head, mumbled something about my mother, and then quickly sat down, lowering his head into the program book.

That's when I lost it. I laughed so hard that I literally blacked out and fell out of my chair. The next thing I knew I was waking up as the dinner's organizer helped me back into my seat. He thought I was Goldsmith's drinking buddy.

It took me a minute or so to figure out what happened and then I just kept laughing. Throughout the night, each time I looked over at Goldsmith, I chuckled.

He too was laughing, but at the big purple goose egg on my forehead. The one I got from hitting the floor. He said all I needed was one more on the other side to make it look like I was growing horns. He even offered to provide it.

If we were in a classroom they would have separated us. The rest of the night, he laughed at me and I at him.

Once home, however, it struck me that I ought to get this checked out. When the doctor heard the story, she asked a few questions and suggested that the episode probably had something to do with my diaphragm pushing up when I laughed, thereby momentarily interrupting my heart. She said it was not unheard of and nothing to be concerned about. Even so, precautionary tests were scheduled.

Forgetting Goldsmith was my best friend, I mentioned this to him. Soon everyone at the magazine was phoning to ask about my faulty diaphragm. Some gleefully suggested alternate methods of birth control. Others were amazed I even owned one.

Now I try not to think of that evening for fear of passing out again. Who said laughter is the best medicine?



pic of the past

This week's pic of the past shows Scott and Curtis Gartshore in the backyard of the family home in Minden. The picture was taken in the mid-1960's Scott Gartshore now has a home on the Lyon Street lot where the family home was located. Our thanks to Joy Kellett for providing the photo. *Correction regarding last week's pic of the past: Helen Giles was the sister of the owner of the golf course.*

letters to the editor

Do it right or don't do it at all

To the Editor:

Re: basement under Rails End Gallery.

This is a very bad idea. What's the point in preserving a heritage building if you're going to turn around and bastardize it? If council wanted meeting space, storage, washrooms and a visitor's centre it should have chosen a different plan from the start. Why change this plan halfway through? This is not what was recommended by professional heritage consultants hired to determine the future of this building.

What makes council think it knows better than those folks? This concept could make Haliburton the laughing-stock of heritage restoration projects across the province.

I am trying to picture this new "sloped" hill around the station... will there be ten-foot deep windows through the hill so there's natural light inside or does council expect folks to work and play in an underground bunker? How long will the wheelchair ramp have to be to maintain the required grade? How stupid is this going to look?

Landscape it any way you want: it's still going to be a railway station in the air.

The value of any community's heritage cannot be underestimated. It should be embraced, supported and funded, not bent and twisted, torn down or compromised. Losing heritage to the ravages of time or fire is one thing; losing heritage to bad decisions by council is another altogether. Thank goodness - and hearty congratulations to - the Haliburton BIA for their main street efforts.

Folks across the county - including the museum that Dysart funds - are working like mad to preserve, conserve and recreate local heritage.

Decisions like this deflate those efforts and make us wonder why we bother. This idea must be reconsidered. Not only will the building look goofy, the concept defeats the purpose of heritage restoration. Do it properly or don't do it at all.

Carol Moffatt
Stanhope Museum
Hawk Lake Log Chute Restoration

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur



Use some imagination on Rails End project

To the Editor:

The article in last week's paper regarding the "lofty height" of the Rails End Gallery to match its "lofty inspirations" was, if it wasn't so sad a statement as to the Rails End building plans, laughable.

I do not know which is more slippery, the slope or the ideas expressed for renovations.

I do know what happened to me when I arrived home with grass stains on my backside.

Whoever is in charge, (and no one seems to want to say they are) this is a chance to preserve historical connections in the Village of Haliburton in a manner which will do it proud.

Please use your imagination.

Oops I forgot, ... I guess you have.

David M. Bishop,
Haliburton

Letter writer notes washroom improvement

To the Editor:

Pursuant to my recent letter to *The Echo* regarding the condition of the washrooms in the town of Haliburton, I was pleased to see the 1,000% difference in the IGA washroom today, September 15th, when I was in the store.

Roberta Barker,
Haliburton Lake

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Municipality of Dysart et al

NOTICE

Office Closure

The Dysart Municipal Office will be closed on Tuesday, September 28 and Wednesday, September 29, 2004 for the relocation of staff and setup in the office addition.

Not all residents of Irondale oppose asphalt plant

To the Editor:

This past July, I wrote a letter about the proposed Irondale asphalt plant. As I mentioned, I have very close ties to this area, returning to my birthplace as often as I can.

While visiting my relations this September, I read a letter in *The Minden Times* (September 17, 2004) written by Dick Clark and titled "Asphalt plant will be environmental disaster."

First of all, Mr. Clark infers that local people around Irondale are opposed to the proposed asphalt plant. He should have stated, "a few local people." Of the many local residents that I have talked to, they all support the proposed asphalt plant. A local petition, of which I have seen, confirms the significant support.

I have become more informed on the proposed asphalt plant and the functioning of an asphalt plants. Impact on biodiversity would be nil. The proposed location of the asphalt plant would be centrally located within an existing quarry - what better place for an asphalt plant?

Surely Environment Haliburton and the Sierra Club of Ontario would apply some common sense in listening to such deceptive and distorted information being provided by the extremists. If asphalt plants are such an environmental disaster, as these people would lead others to believe, then the government should shut down all asphalt plants in Canada. Taking this to the extreme, if the activists are generally against gravel pits and quarries we would be back to sand roads and then horse and buggy. They criticize but offer no alternatives except "not in my backyard."

There are numerous asphalt plants throughout the country, most of which are located in close proximity to residential areas. A number of plants are also located within remote and "so called" pristine areas. In many cases, the asphalt plants were initially located in semi remote areas and now residential developments surround the plants.

In the August 17th *Haliburton County Echo*, Joanne Nicks (anti-asphalt person) indicated that she sent me a letter in response to my article, mentioned above. To date, I have never received a letter from her and I see no reason why she should write me as I am only stating my opinion.

Helen Pantridge
Montreal

Working group should consult many groups on Frost issue

To the Editor:

RE: Frost Centre Working Group

For many of us the summer of 2004 has been a season when we mourned and fought the loss of the Frost Centre. Haliburtonians joined with environmental educators, environmentalists, and the thousands who have enjoyed the truly wonderful educational experiences offered by the talented and dedicated Frost staff to call for the Frost Centre to remain a public facility dedicated to environmental literacy. Indeed, all of us will undoubtedly continue to mobilize until a satisfactory solution is found.

This week, Warden Bill Davis announced the establishment of a local working committee to explore the future of the Frost. Environment Haliburton! welcomes this initiative as an important first step to explore a potential basis for a solution. The appointees to the committee have exceptional experience, particularly in the environment and education fields and EH! is confident that, with the help of the community, they will be able to create a solution.

At the same time, EH! shares the concern of many, that the Frost Centre and its many valuable programs should remain in the public sphere thus reflecting its value to all citizens of Ontario. We believe that the province should continue to play an important role in the Frost centre as part of its commitment to the protection of valuable natural heritage sites and its commitment to environmental education.

We encourage the working committee to consult broadly on the future of the Frost. More than 60 organizations and individuals in the province, representing thousands of citizens, signed the Open Letter to Premier McGuinty requesting that the Frost continue. The signatories represent a breadth of knowledge, and experience upon which the committee can call for innovative solutions.

We hope that the committee, in an open and positive consultation, will call upon the resources available.

We wish the working committee well in their endeavour to reconstitute the Frost as a pre-eminent centre for environmental education. EH! will be happy to meet with the working committee and to assist with the consultation to re-build the Frost.

Heather Ross, President
Environment Haliburton!

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Community Living video is a moving testimonial

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

Community Living Haliburton County is one of the places where the name says it is all. It is a place where staff help those with disabilities live in Haliburton County.

During the annual general meeting last Thursday night at the Haliburton Legion, a video was presented that showed a day in the life of clients of Community Living and what it means to people in Haliburton to have those individuals visit their establishments or work for their businesses.

The smiling faces and warmth expressed by the various people interviewed brought tears to more than a few eyes. People spoke about how the folks from Community Living brighten their day, make their jobs easier and how much they value living in a place where people of different abilities are welcomed and respected.

The video was shot and put together by Emily Bjelis, whose mother works for the agency. Emily, a Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student, says she enjoyed the project and has an easy rapport with many of the individuals.

Andrea Roberts, Community Living president, reflected on how everyone seems busier today than ever before. She spoke about how technology has intruded into our lives and demands more of our attention. She then added that, although life may have seemed simpler 60 years ago, Community Living did not exist then but after celebrating the Ontario Community Living movement's 50 anniversary last November, she says they should all be grateful for how much times have changed.

SHERYL LOUCKS/Echo



Robin Fletcher talks to Community Living President Andrea Roberts after the annual general meeting while Gerald McKnight looks through some of the reports at Community Living's annual general meeting.

She mentioned the provincial government's recent announcement to close Ontario's last three residential institutions for the disabled and says it is overdue good news. She says it is exciting to hear those individuals will be phased into the community.

Roberts says that the theme of this year's annual conference was Speak Up and Speak Out.

"This is a good organization but I challenge you to make it a great one. I challenge you to give it all you've got. Let us challenge ourselves to do better," says Roberts.

Executive director Maureen O'Hara outlined the organization's various programs. She said they have a new program for 21- to 28-year-olds to help them make the transition from school to life in the community. She gave the example of one young man in Kinmount who just needed an introduction to an employer. He has

been working for the last year and the employer and the individual are both happy.

She says others coming out of the high school have more significant needs and it will be a challenge to build a life outside of the school system. She says the government is reviewing how the agencies provide supports for assisted living and is making the system more person-centred.

Nancy Picard reported that fundraising has been going well. They raised \$7,570 at the annual Dare to Ski event at Sir Sam's and \$2,340 through the mail-out program called Flowers of Hope. There are other forms of donations such as memorials and gifts.

Roberts says they will continue to work towards introducing people to their clients and showing people how those with intellectual disabilities are not only your neighbours but can also be your friends.



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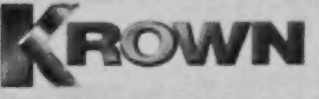
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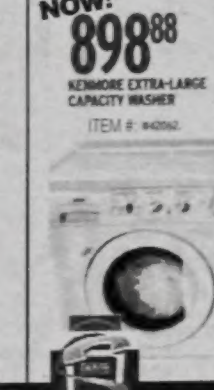
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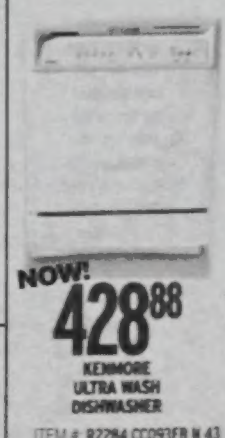
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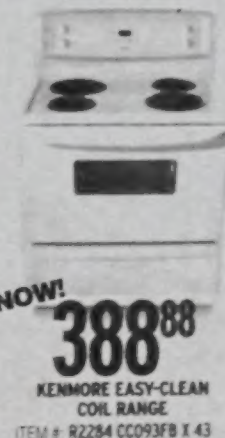
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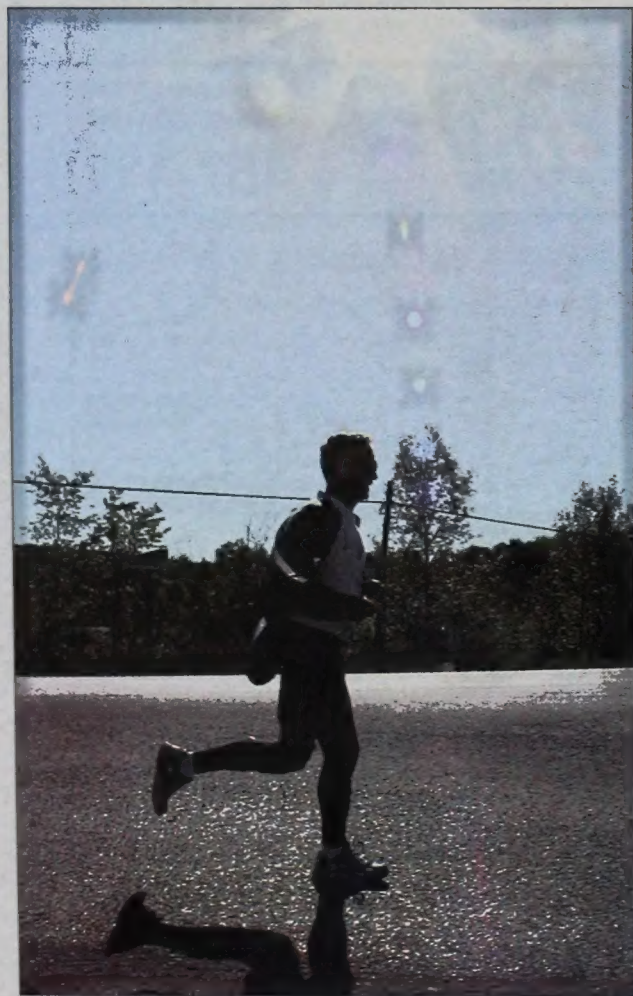
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Terry's legacy



Running, biking and walking in the name of a Canadian hero were close to 100 participants in the 23rd annual Haliburton Terry Fox Run. It raised \$4,840, adding to the approximately \$50,000 raised through the event's history in Haliburton. There were 96 participants who ran and bicycled the 10 km route that started at the Head Lake docks, then went along Cty. Rd. 1 to South Kashagawigamog towards the Haliburton Highlands Golf Course where they turned around and returned to the start. Organizer Andy Salvatori said participation was down from previous years and could not explain why. He hopes that more people will come out for the 25th anniversary next year. Salvatori thanks Bob Park, Mike Easton, Jim Henwood, Kim Emmerson, the Haliburton Curling Club, Dutch Pain and the Haliburton County Echo for their support.

Photos by Darren Lum



Above: Ninety-six participants leave the starting line.

Left: Bicyclists and runners make their way down the rail trail adjacent to the school property.

Bottom: There were more bicyclists than runners at this year's event.

Bottom left: A silhouetted Len Pizzey makes the turn onto South Kashagawigamog.

Above bottom left: All funds raised through pledges and clothing sales went to the cause.

Top left: A lending hand to the cause of finding a cure for cancer.





Students run/bike to put a stop to cancer

The 9th annual Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Terry Fox run raised \$3,800 with 270 students from HHSS and J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School and faculty participating in the event. In its nine-year history the event has raised more than \$39,000. Organizers expressed appreciation to the community that has lent so much support through the children's pledges. They expect the event to break the \$40,000 mark next year. All money has gone to the Terry Fox Foundation that contributes to the research for a cure. Bruce Griffith said that if Terry Fox were alive today his cancer would have been cured.

Photos by Darren Lum

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The Red Hawks continue working out for the 2004-05 season. See schedule on the next page.

Fledgling Red Hawks grow up

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Victories will be coming the hard way – through hard work and hustle, said the senior basketball coach.

Head coach Roland Zilla enjoyed success with the junior squad last year winning Kawartha with an undefeated regular season, only losing to Bayside Secondary School in COSSA.

He is realistic about the senior team that is comprised primarily of first-year seniors.

"The success we had last year is not going to happen this year. And if it does it's going to be by surprise and hard work. That's why I'm not ruling it out," Zilla said.

Excluding returning seniors Danielle Clements and Laura Riley, the team consists of first-year seniors and two Grade 10 players.

"We're very young by senior standards," he said.

Unlike the more "helter skelter" junior game, Zilla says that there is more skill at the senior level and that mistakes translate into points for the opposition.

When he talks about leaders, Kirsten Rae, Cassidy Zilla and Julie Johnston come to mind. They are three of the five

DARREN LUM/Echo



Forwards Michelle Neumann and Laura Riley jostle for position in the post as coach Roland Zilla waits to pass to Neumann. Kirsten Rae waits just behind.

mainstays from the junior squad who have made the leap to senior. Success came to them in junior, but at senior there isn't a guarantee, Zilla says. "It's not just going to happen for them. It's going to be tough for them."

Rather than having a conservative

game plan the team is expected to be on the attack on offense and defense. Using the fastbreak as the starting point for the offence the team will run set plays off of it whenever possible.

"The style of play they're used to is fastbreak. If anything we're going to

attempt to go faster," Zilla says. "On the other side of the ball we're just simply going to out work the other team, out press them and out run them. Whether we win or lose the other team at the end of the game is going to say 'Okay, we were in a game.'"

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DARREN LUM/ECHO

Red Hawks Schedule Sept. 22 - 30

Updated Red Hawks Athletic Schedule

Sept. 22
Jr. field hockey SPSS @ HHSS 2 p.m.
Sr. field hockey SPSS @ HHSS 3 p.m.

Sept. 23
Varsity rugby Kenner @ HHSS 3 p.m.

Sept. 24
Jr. football FFSS @ HHSS 1 p.m.
Sr. football FFSS @ HHSS 3 p.m.

Jr. soccer HHSS @ IEW
Sr. soccer HHSS @ IEW

Sr. girls basketball
Trillium Tournament @ HHSS
Jr. girls basketball
Trillium Tournament @ Huntsville

Sept. 27
Varsity rugby HHSS @ Adam Scott

Sept. 28
Jr. boys soccer IEW @ HHSS 2:30 p.m.
Sr. boys soccer LCVI @ HHSS 3:30 p.m.

Jr. girls basketball LCVI @ HHSS 3 p.m.
Sr. girls basketball LCVI @ HHSS 4 p.m.

Jr. field hockey
HHSS @ HCSS, HHSS vs. LDSS
Sr. field hockey
HHSS @ HCSS, HHSS vs. HCSS,
HHSS vs. PCVS

Sept. 29
Jr. girls basketball STA @ HHSS 3 p.m.
Sr. girls basketball STA @ HHSS 4 p.m.

Sept. 30
Sr. soccer HHSS @ FFSS
Jr. soccer HHSS @ FFSS

Varsity rugby SPSS @ HHSS 3 p.m.
Note: all times and dates subject to change

Left: Senior boys soccer head coach Robin Gervais shows his players how to get the head to the ball on cross plays. The team has played two games this season, losing both: 4-nil to St. Thomas Aquinas on the road and 2-nil to Fenelon Falls at home.

Below: Kathryn Berube and Nicole Manary run through drills during the first week. The senior girls field hockey team is expecting to improve upon their COSSA silver medal. Both junior and seniors play their home openers against St. Peter's Secondary School this week.



DARREN LUM/ECHO

Conservation officers need help

The Ontario Conservation Officers Association (OCA) wants to encourage all anglers, hunters, and other outdoor enthusiasts, to give their local Conservation Officer (CO) a hand by calling in to report any game or fish violations that they see or know are occurring in Ontario.

Most Ontarians and other visitors to this province obey our hunting and fishing rules and regulations, OCA says. These laws help to protect Ontario's natural resources for future generations, but some see the wildlife and fish as an unlimited resource; theirs for the taking.

When these unscrupulous few harvest these resources out of season, through illegal means, or in excessive numbers, they not only put the resources in jeopardy, they are stealing from all those who enjoy the outdoors and obey the rules.

So, the next time you witness someone shoot a moose out of season, take too many fish, or commit some other game and fish violation, OCA urges you to call your local Ministry of Natural Resources or Moose Watch at 1 866-346-6673.



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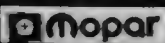
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During the first week of practice Max Creelman stands with the team's head coach Robin Gervais as seen through the back of the net.

Senior Red Hawks soccer rebuilding

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The Red Hawks senior soccer team is looking for the right tune on the pitch.

Head coach Robin Gervais has a cast of unknowns and has limited time with his team before the season opener.

There are only four players returning from last year's senior team. Leadership will come from this year's captains Mike Flowers and Kyle Thompson. Despite the uncertainty of a new team the coach is optimistic.

"I'm looking forward to this year. It's a great group of kids. We're enjoying practices," he said.

With the team employing a 3-4-3 setup the coach is expecting to play a conservative style of game with his midfielders maintaining ball possession for opportuni-

ties down the wing. He wants to use speed down the wings to pressure the defense along the sideline.

"Looking at the speed we have we're better off to try the control game certainly in the first three [games]. If we were able to play one or two perfectly, either the speed or the control, I'd love to be able to play the control. I think any soccer coach would," he said.

After the three games he will assess how well his team adapts to the system before changing to the speed game.

The team's pace will likely come from Ryan Bottum, Tyler Farrell and Rasmus Juergensen. Juergensen is an exchange student from Germany and has demonstrated strong skills and is considered the fastest player on the team.

With a team history of strong goalkeepers such as Josh Shaw and Matt Moore the team will look to junior

call-up Zach Joanu for the tending duties. Joanu played strongly in half the senior games.

With little time to prepare for the first game the coach's goals for the upcoming season are realistic.

"I'll be happy with making it to the Kawartha AA. That means we have to beat out St. Thomas Aquinas," he said. "If we compete well I'll be happy with that. Next year we're going to look at wins and losses. This year competing is our main goal."

"Experience is the biggest challenge we're going to have. We lost a lot of players."

The team's first game was against St. Thomas Aquinas on Friday, Sept. 17 and their home opener was against Fenelon Falls on Monday, Sept. 20.

Note: This story was filed prior to the team's first two games that ended in losses.

There's lots more
**Dining
& Real Estate**
in the
Fall Tour section
of this week's paper

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Highlands East council briefs

Paudash Lake wants help in naming 27 streams

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from the Highlands East council meeting of September 14.

Valerie Hunnius came to council to present a copy of the Paudash Lake Management Plan, the first plan of its kind to be completed in the county.

Hunnius says they are really excited about having the document completed. The Paudash Lake Association had wanted it to be a community process and they had a lot of public input in creating the plan.

She says the plan is now undergoing a 60-day review. They are hoping to correct inaccuracies by October 30 and get the plan printed and circulated. She says there are gaps in the information but that one of the plan's strategies is to fill in those blanks over time.

The plan has recommendations for the Official Plan, Zoning By-law and future conservation strategies but said she had not come to council on that day to discuss or debate those recommendations. She says the lake association has started to do new water testing for dissolved oxygen and water temperature. They are also working on an inventory of the streams running into the lake and to date have identified 27. She says they would like to work with council on a public process to name those streams but hopes it will not be as arduous as 911 road naming has been.

Septage Trench

The levelling of the field for the septage trench has been completed, says Glen Covert, environment/property manager. He says the original cost was estimated at \$13,000 to \$14,000 but after a site visit with the contractor, Covert and Deputy-Reeve Bill Howe agreed an extra \$15,000 of work was needed. The contractor, however, has submitted more than \$33,000 in bills after the initial payment and there are more bills coming. Council agreed to pay only an additional \$15,000.

Covert also opened the tenders for fencing for the septage trench site. The bids ranged from \$47,055 to \$63,873. Council accepted the lowest bid.

They need to have 660 m of chain link fencing 2.4 m high in order to meet the conditions of the provincial certificate of approval for the site.

Asphalt Plant

A temporary asphalt plant has been approved in Harcourt. Smiths Construction Company, a division of Miller Paving Limited, has been contracted by the Ministry of Transportation for reconstruction of

SHERYL LOUCKS/Echo



Valerie Hunnius, centre, presents a copy of the Paudash Lake Management Plan to Highlands East council. It is now undergoing a 60-day review.

Highway 118 from Highway 28 to the easterly junction of Highway 648 and from the westerly junction of Highway 648 for 12.9 km. The company is planning on using the Trotter pit in Harcourt because there are no local asphalt plants in the area.

The plant complies with the Ministry of Environment legislation and contains a roto-airc dust collection system. The plant is expected to operate from mid-September to the end of October this year.

Sharon Stoughton-Craig, clerk, says the by-law allows for portable asphalt plants to be used by a public road authority or their agent.



Cardiff

Ann Rowley, Cardiff Community Association president, came to council to present the budget and a report on their activities. Five different fundraising activities raised more than \$1,000.

She says they have been holding successful teen dances twice a month, have 20 to 25 kids out a week playing basketball and will soon be hosting an adult dance on October 23. She says in August they had the Cardiff Olympics, a community fun day, and everyone had a great time.

She asked for the municipality's help in applying for an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant to fix the outdoor arena. They want to put down a permanent outdoor pad and put up new boards. Rowley says that because the association is not incorporated they can not receive the grant but the municipality could on their behalf.

Clerk Sharon Stoughton-Craig says she will work

with the group to get them through the process and the council agreed to back their application.

Reeve Keith Tallman and the councillors all congratulated her and the association's efforts.

Bears

Council has received a \$7,000 grant from the province for signage and a risk assessment about how to control the bear population.

Crowe Valley

Councillor Suzanne Partridge, who sits on the Crowe Valley Conservation authority's board, advised council to pass a resolution asking the Minister of Natural Resources to reinvest in the conservation authority. Partridge says the MNR is not funding the authority the 50 per cent of flood and erosion control programs and other costs the province agreed to pay. She says the MNR is not meeting their own funding formula and municipalities are picking up the tab as a result.

Council passed the resolution.

Frost Centre

The council received a request from Cathy Olliffe of the PermaFrost Committee to put up a Save the Frost banner in Wilberforce. Councillor Rick Forget says there are better ways to spend the money in the short term for the cause. He suggested that they could have a few posters drawn up and put around the village instead.

Councillor Suzanne Partridge suggested they post a notice encouraging people to write their MPP to lobby for the Frost Centre.

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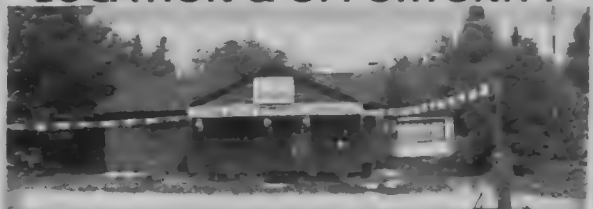
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Consultant Juri Berzins has come up with a new streetscape for Haliburton. This photo shows the north side of the main street from Woody's restaurant to the Stedman's mall. Eighty per cent of the changes he's recommending are cosmetic and minor but he says they will help make the buildings more attractive for shoppers.



Main street re-design focuses on old-fashioned facades

from page 1

logo. The BIA also entered into the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design program offered by the Ontario Provincial Police.

The BIA has hired Juri Berzins from Urban Design Associates twice, once in 1996 and this year, to do schematic drawings of how to improve the facades or front of buildings to give the village a unified and themed look. Berzins says he has worked with 100 towns in Ontario and can sense when a town is on the move. And Haliburton is one of them.

Glecoff says the redesign is important because if they improve and fix up the village there will be more civic pride and less vandalism. Berzins added that when things look nice there is more of a sense

of ownership and less damage. He says kids don't hesitate to break things when they already look broken.

Berzins says if buildings look sad and downtrodden it won't matter how great the shops are; they will not invite people inside. He spoke to the merchants and property owners while undertaking the redesign plan and examined what was already in the village.

His company did drawings of every building downtown with suggestions for detailed changes. The redesign is based on focusing on the traditional architecture in town such as the Country Pickins' store which is Victoriana and pioneer turn-of-the-century architecture of Varty's Jewellery.

Berzins and Glecoff complimented

Anthony vanLieshout for completing the Village Barn makeover to fit into the redesign plan.

Berzins says 80 per cent of the proposed changes are cosmetic and minor. They include changing colours to fit within a heritage theme by choosing brown, hunter/ivy green, beige, mahogany red, cobalt blue and antique gold. False fronts to give the buildings a uniform height of at least a storey and a half. This can be done to some buildings, such as the one housing Bowes and Cocks and Subway, by adding a peak.

He is also recommending cornices and window brackets and dividers like the ones on the new Village Barn.

He says the Old Country House restaurant is an "okay" building but does not fit into the theme because it is more of a Swiss Alps style. Bernsteins is an old-fashioned building that could be easily modified with paint and some window changes to fit in.

"Can you look like Port Perry? They took 10 years. I'd say here in two years we'll have 10 buildings done," says Berzins.

At the meeting every merchant/property owner was given their own copy of the drawings for their building. Berzins says there is talk in the air about people making the investment. The little house between the Butcher Block and Varty Jewellers is being transformed into a Victorian style café.

He was asked if any of the towns he worked with had help from the municipality to do the redesign. Berzins says

every town has done it differently. He gave the example of Orangeville where the architectural advisory group worked with the town hall to put \$50,000 aside to help businesses make changes. vanLieshout suggested that the municipality could consider giving interest-free loans to help businesses make changes.

Berzins warned the group that giving public money to private business is always difficult.

Derek Knowles presented the results of the OPP's Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design evaluation that he coordinated. The study emphasized improving lighting in front of buildings and in the alleys, trimming bushes down to two feet or trees up seven feet, removing graffiti as soon as it appears, gating small alleys between buildings and maintaining buildings that may be losing bricks or having problems with cracked cement steps.

One of Knowles' pet peeves is weeds around parking meters and along the sidewalks. Someone from the audience quipped they would rather see the weeds than the parking meters but otherwise people seemed to be receptive to the presentation.

Knowles congratulated Dysart for hiring someone to trim the trees and bushes in the park, straighten sign posts and make minor improvements.

The BIA also presented three different styles of 911 number signs for the village and the group agreed they would like to see everyone use the same sign. An oval, plastic weatherproof sign was picked.

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2:30 - Emergency Management Ontario, Community Airport Involvement

3:30 - Department of National Defense Value of Community Airports

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Stephen Clare of OFAH Invasive Species

Club Updates

S50 - 50 Draw at 12 Noon

Davis hopes compatible groups will take over Frost

from page 1

says of his goal. "It's an important part of our environment. And if you do something unique and make it more self-sufficient, then it gets off the radar screen once it comes to budget trimming."

The five other committee members are Haliburton County Warden Bill Davis, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Eleanor Harrison, recently retired Fleming College president Brian Desbiens, District of Muskoka Councillor Margaret and Ken Veitch, the retired clerk of Gravenhurst and chairman of the Muskoka Stewardship Council.

They will be reporting to Liberal MPP Jeff Leal of Peterborough, who will be acting on Phillips' behalf. Not all of the committee members were available for comment.

Yesterday some of the committee members met with Finance Minister Greg Sorbara. One of the issues discussed was how much the province will give the committee to undertake the review. The county has asked for \$100,000.

"I think we'll be told we have x-number of dollars," Davis said on Friday, adding that the group will have to be accountable for all the money it's given.

Davis says he's "very optimistic" about the outcome of the process, which could take up to a year. "I know there are some organizations out there that will come forward. I see it as a group of compatible groups taking it over."

Perhaps the government will agree to a \$1 a year lease, Davis says. "I would like to see the Frost Centre stay public and the government continue to own it."

The main task will be to ensure the Frost Centre is viable financially. "The last thing that this county wants to do is come up with a recipe for disaster."

Davis says the committee's formation honours the county's request to be given an opportunity to come up with a locally-driven solution to the closure of the Frost Centre rather than have it sold off to private interests.

When David Ramsay, the Minister of Natural

Resources, announced the closure of the Frost in late June, he said the province could no longer afford to maintain the education and training facility. He said the move would save the province \$1.4 million but groups such as PermaFrost put the number much lower because the Frost Centre was almost operationally self-sufficient.

The public was outraged not only by the closure but by the speed and haste with which it was done. All programs were cancelled from the day of the announcement on and staff were told to immediately start packing up the centre's contents. The building was abandoned, except for hired security, two weeks later.

For weeks *The Echo* ran letters protesting the closure and protests were held locally and at Queen's Park.

In a previous *Echo* article MPP Leal says his government handled the decision to close the Frost Centre badly and said he would work with the province to come up with a solution.

Greg Walling says, "I think even Liberals admit this wasn't done properly. There's an asset there and

regardless of what happens the value of that asset has to be maximized, and I'm not just taking about its financial value. We have a bunch of money invested there as taxpayers.

Walling founded the StarChoice satellite business and now volunteers for many non-profit organizations in Lindsay. "I'm a funding guy," he says of his efforts to help groups, such as the Boys and Girls Club raise money."

In an article in the *Huntsville Forester*, the chairman of the District of Muskoka, Doug Adams, says he recommended Margaret Casey as a committee member because "she has taken a keen interest in the Frost Centre. She has been involved in educational programs there, as well as her children."

Adams says that his other recommendation, Ken Veitch, "chairs a stewardship program so he is chairing a non-profit organization and has some experience with an educational facility that is run up in Algonquin by the association that he chairs."

Veitch, he says, has a history of "getting things done."

Water Watch asks Highlanders to join fight against Bill 170

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

A group that's lobbying to get the provincial government to change its new water regulation policies is hosting a public meeting in Cardiff to try to get Haliburton County to join the fight.

Water Watch invites people to attend the September 26 meeting to find out how the regulations will adversely affect private businesses.

Killaloe's Gunther Borck, who chairs the committee, says his group is against Bill 170/03 for several reasons. It will force private operators to install water treatment facilities which, he says, will add an onerous financial burden and have an impact on the environment.

He also questions the wisdom of making people drink chlorinated water.

His group says private operators, such as camp grounds, used to have to follow Ministry of Health guidelines through the health unit. These guidelines provide sufficient protection for people drinking the water, he says.

"Why fix something that isn't broken?"

The meeting is on Sun., Sept. 26 at 2:30 p.m. at the Cardiff Legion. For details on the organization, which has 500 members, visit www.waterwatch.ca.

Lakes lowered for spawning

The Haliburton levels remain above average at approximately 58.5%. The autumn lowering of several lakes with lake trout spawning has begun. These lakes will depart from the usual decline of the others in order to get down before the adult fish arrive to deposit eggs. This is most evident on Kushog Lake and Big Bob Lake.

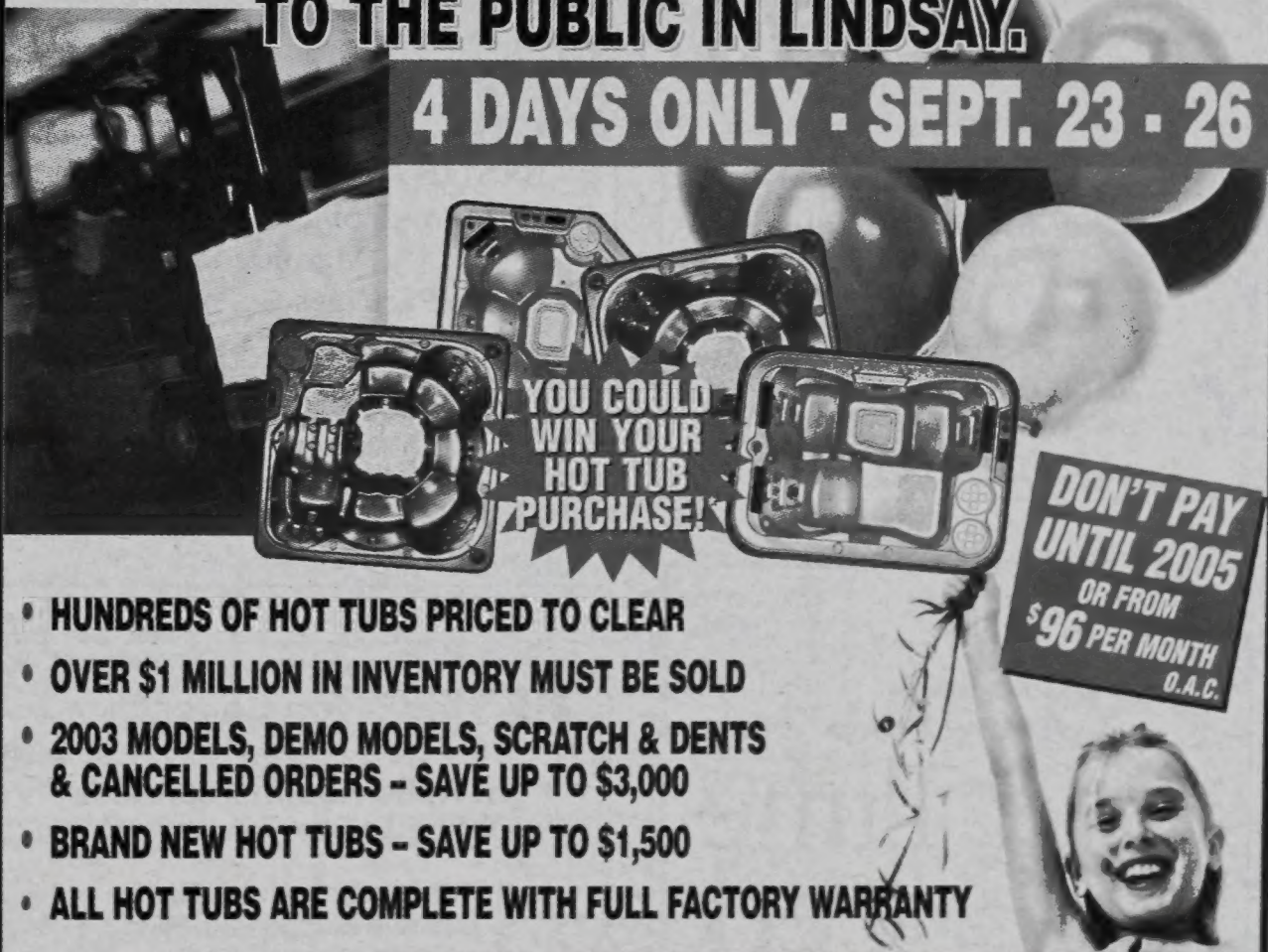
The Kawartha Lakes were raised somewhat by about 40 mm of rain on Thursday and Friday last week. These remnants of Hurricane Frances fortunately were light in the upper parts of the watershed but heavy from Rice Lake southward.

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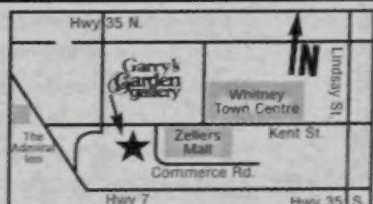
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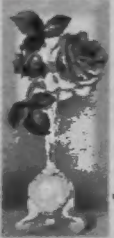
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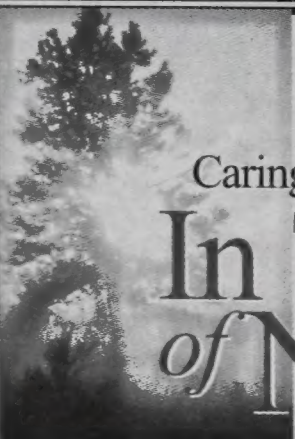
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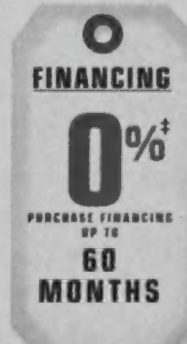
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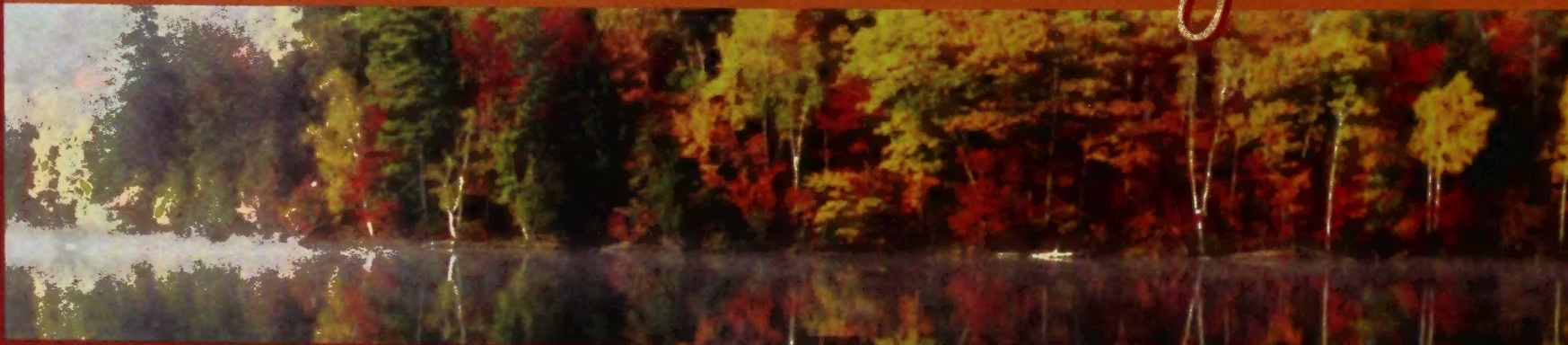
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